<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the prior art rejections set forth by

the Examiner under 35 USC-sections 102 and 103. Applicant respectfully submits that the

prior art references of record, whether considered alone, or in combination, fail to either teach

or suggest Applicant's presently claimed invention.

In order to underscore the differences between Applicants presently claimed invention

and the prior art references cited by the Examiner, Applicant has modified each of the

independent claims to further require that the plurality of transfer registers include two

transfer registers which receive and concurrently transfer said signal charges from at least

two rows of pixels of said sensor array. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the

references of record teach or suggest this advance in the art and furthermore that the cited

references actually teach away from Applicants presently claimed invention.

More specifically, Applicant notes that United States patent number 5,196,939 only

describes an imaging device wherein transfer registers receive charges from only a single row

of a sensor array. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's claimed

imaging device is not obvious in light of the teachings of the prior art because the prior art

reference clearly describes that the charges from only a single row of pixels are transferred

into the two registers and that charge-transfer is performed with the adjacent four electrodes

of the transfer registers having a charge packet and the other adjacent four electrodes blank as

shown in Figures 6A-6 F and 8.

page 6 of 9

Appl. No. 09/447,301

Amdt. Dated April 20, 2005

Reply to Office Action of December 21, 2004

In particular, Figure 8 details the charge transfer scheme which is described in

Column 7 beginning at line 19. This portion of the specification notes that at these sites and

charge packets are shown in every other location.

More specifically, in the detailed description relating to the subject matter of Figure 4,

it is readily apparent that the Examiner's primary reference teaches that each row is divided

into the two transfer registers. For example, in the description in column 4 beginning at line

42 states that each row of data transferred from storage register 33 to transfer registers 17 A

and 17B is divided up between the two transfer registers 17 A and 17B. Transfer register 17

A receives the charge stored in the even-numbered columns of the transferred row while

transfer register 17 B receives charge stored in the odd-numbered columns of the transferred

row. This portion of the specification makes it particularly clear that the Examiner's primary

reference teaches away from Applicants presently claimed invention.

page 7 of 9

Appl. No. 09/447,301 Amdt. Dated April 20, 2005 Reply to Office Action of December 21, 2004

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted

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